

Kim has also worked closely with labor organizations and women's groups to advance causes that are important to American families—and to Kim personally. Issues she worked especially hard on include closing the pay gap between men and women, raising the minimum wage, and strengthening the federal commitment to breast cancer research. Kim was also active in the fight to retain the Federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program last year as part of TEA-21, the new Federal highway bill.

Kim's immediate plans include traveling through Indonesia. She will attend the Graduate School for Counseling at the University of Maryland in the fall.

On behalf of all Senate Democrats, I'd like to thank Kim for her hard work, and wish her the best of luck in her travel and studies. She will be missed.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD BAXTER WILSON

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, before the Senate adjourned for the Easter recess, my State of Mississippi suffered the loss of one of its finest citizens, Richard Baxter Wilson, who died on Monday, March 15. He was a national leader in the electric power industry. He served as a member of the board of directors of Middle South Utilities, Inc., the Edison Electric Institute, and the National Association of Electric Companies.

In addition to serving as president and chairman of the board of Mississippi Power & Light Company, he was also a member of many other corporate, charitable, civic, and educational institution boards.

He was a personal friend of mine whose advice and counsel I appreciated and relied upon, to my great benefit. His two children, Richard B. Wilson, Jr. and Miriam Weems, are two of my closest and dearest friends. And I extend to them, and all the members of the family, my sincerest condolences.

I ask unanimous consent that the obituary that appeared in *The Clarion-Ledger* of Jackson, MS, of March 16 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the obituary was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *Clarion-Ledger*, Mar. 16, 1999]

RICHARD BAXTER WILSON, EX-COMPANY PRESIDENT

MADISON—Richard Baxter Wilson, 93, a former president of Mississippi Power & Light, died of heart failure Monday at his home.

Services are 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at First Presbyterian Church of Jackson. Visitation is 4-6 p.m. today at Wright & Ferguson Funeral Home and 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Mr. Wilson was a Yazoo City native. He graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1927.

He began working with Mississippi Power & Light in 1926 and worked in Cleveland before moving to Jackson. He was president of

the company from 1954-69 and chairman of the board until his 1976 retirement. MP&L's largest plant in Vicksburg was named after him.

Mr. Wilson also served as chairman of the Jackson Airport Authority, Jackson Planning Board, State National Alliance of Businessmen, Mississippi U.S. Savings Bonds Committee and was national vice president of the American Red Cross. He had helped develop the Jackson Municipal Airport and other projects for Mississippi's economic development office. He was an organizer of the Pearl River Development Association and was chairman of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce Committee that promoted development of the Ross Barnett Reservoir.

He was president of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Clubs of Jackson and Cleveland, the Andrew Jackson Council of Boy Scouts of America, Southeastern Electric Exchange, Beauvoir Foundation and the University of Mississippi Alumni Association. He was a member of the Newcomer Society of North America.

Mr. Wilson chaired several fund drives including the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center and Salvation Army.

He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson where he was a deacon for nearly 50 years. He was a Mason and a member of the Wahabi Temple of Shriners.

Mr. Wilson was a director and vice-president of Middle South Utilities, Inc. He was a trustee at Deposit Guaranty National Bank, Belhaven College, University of Mississippi Alumni Association, National Association of Electric Companies, Edison Electric Institute, Southeastern Electric Exchange, Mississippi Economic Council, Magna Corporation, Standard Life Insurance Co., Mississippi Agricultural & Industrial Board and Southern Research Institute.

Mr. Wilson had an endowed fellowship at UM in his honor and the First Federal Award for distinguished service to the state. He had received several other distinguished awards.

"No man has expressed greater faith in, or worked harder for the development of Mississippi than Baxter Wilson," said a *Jackson Daily News* editorial in 1970.

Wilson's goal and recurring motif, the editorial said, was "helping build Mississippi."

He was a charter member of Epsilon Xi chapter of the Sigma Nu fraternity at UM and was a member of the Mississippi Society of Professional Engineers. He received from the university the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1979 and Engineer of Distinction in 1984. He became a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary International Foundation in 1987.

He was the widower of Katherine Owen and Edwina Ford Barker.

Survivors include a son, Richard Baxter Wilson Jr., of Jackson; daughter, Miriam Weems of Jackson; and two grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to French Camp Academy, R. Baxter Wilson Fellowship Fund at the University of Mississippi in Oxford or to a favorite charity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EUDORA WELTY

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, today one of my State's most famous citizens of all time celebrates her 90th birthday. Eudora Welty is known around the world as a writer of enormous talent and accomplishment. She has lived for most of her life in Jackson, MS, and she enjoys a level of popularity in our State that a politician can envy but not match.

I invite the attention of all Senators to the May issue of *Vanity Fair* which contains a toast to Eudora by my

friend and fellow Mississippian, Willie Morris.

In today's edition of the *Jackson Clarion-Ledger*, an article describes other activities that will be taking place in our State to honor Miss Welty on her 90th birthday.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of that newspaper article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the *Clarion-Ledger*, April 13, 1999]

MORRIS' TRIBUTE TO WELTY IN 'VANITY FAIR'—MAGAZINE ARTICLE HONORS JACKSON WRITER ON 90TH BIRTHDAY; CELEBRATION SET

(By Billy Watkins)

Eudora Welty, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author from Jackson, turns 90 years old today.

To help commemorate the occasion, fellow Mississippi author Willie Morris wrote a 4,000-word story about Welty for *Vanity Fair* magazine's May issue, which is on newsstands now. Morris calls it his "toast to Eudora."

"And I all her Eudora because she's been my friend since I was a little boy," Morris says. "I very strongly support the idea that she is the greatest living American writer. She's full of wackiness and humor and loyalty to her friends. She's just so generous. Always has been."

Morris will participate in a tribute to Welty 5-7 p.m. today at Lemuria Book Store in Jackson. Although Welty will not be able to attend, Morris, along with Mississippi writer Ellen Douglas, will be present at the celebration where two new books will be unveiled.

University Press of Mississippi will release *The First Story*, a limited edition reprint of Welty's first published short story, *Death of a Traveling Salesman*. It includes an essay by Welty looking back at that story. Only 500 hardcovers have been printed. They sell for \$75 each.

Hill Street Press of Athens, Ga., will debut *Eudora Welty: Writers' Reflections Upon First Reading Welty*. It includes essays by Morris, Douglas, Barry Hannah, Reynolds Price and others.

John Evans, owner of Lemuria, says Welty books still sell well.

"We sell a lot to out-of-towners and people who just moved here who know about Miss Welty," Evans says. "And I keep her work stocked. I feel like it's our duty that if somebody asks for something by Miss Welty, we should have it."

Morris' piece for *Vanity Fair* was originally 18,000 words but had to be edited down. "I was pleased with the way it turned out," Morris says. "I'll include the entire story in my next book of essays, which will come out in about two years."

Morris contacted many notable writers—Shelby Foote and William Styron among them—and included their views on Welty. "I sent out more than 30 letters to people who have known her for years," Morris says, "and I got 100 percent response. I think that says what people think of Eudora, the fact that they took time to respond."

"I really believe most people who love writing will read this story—not because of me, but because of Eudora. She's loved universally. And I was honored to write the story."

Mr. DODD. Will my colleague yield?

Mr. COCHRAN. I am happy to yield.

Mr. DODD. I just say to my colleague from Mississippi, I commend him for